DWARF MISTLETOE AND BROOM RUST ON

THE CHIPPEWA NATIONAL FOREST

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During 1975 the NCFES requested that S&PF conduct an impact survey for dwarf mistletoe on black spruce in the Lake States. Due to the availability of the RB-57 photography and compartment examination data, and the interest of the Chippewa National Forest, a survey to determine the impact of dwarf mistletoe was undertaken on the Chippewa National Forest, as a prelude to the Lake States wide survey. The methods will be reported in a 1976 National Forest dwarf mistletoe on black spruce survey. In addition to the dwarf mistletoe data, the incidence of broom rust on black spruce and balsam fir was noted during the survey since there seemed to be some confusion in separating the broom rust from mistletoe.

Dwarf Mistletoe
(Black Spruce)

Of the 835 black spruce stands examined during the survey, 0.5% of the stands were found to be infected on National Forest land. The inclusion of private land within the forest boundaries increased the percentage to 1.5.

Broom Rust
(Black Spruce and Balsam Fir)

Of the 136 fir stands examined during the survey, 55% were found to have fir broom rust. One-tenth of 1% of the 835 black spruce stands were found to be infected with the broom rust. The rust was distributed at random and throughout the area.

The broom rusts are of no economical importance and the incidence of dwarf mistletoe is so low that it does not pose any immediate problem to resources on the forest.

Dwarf mistletoe - Note the upturned branch and foliage throughout the broom

Broom rust - Note the foliage at terminal part of the broom only.

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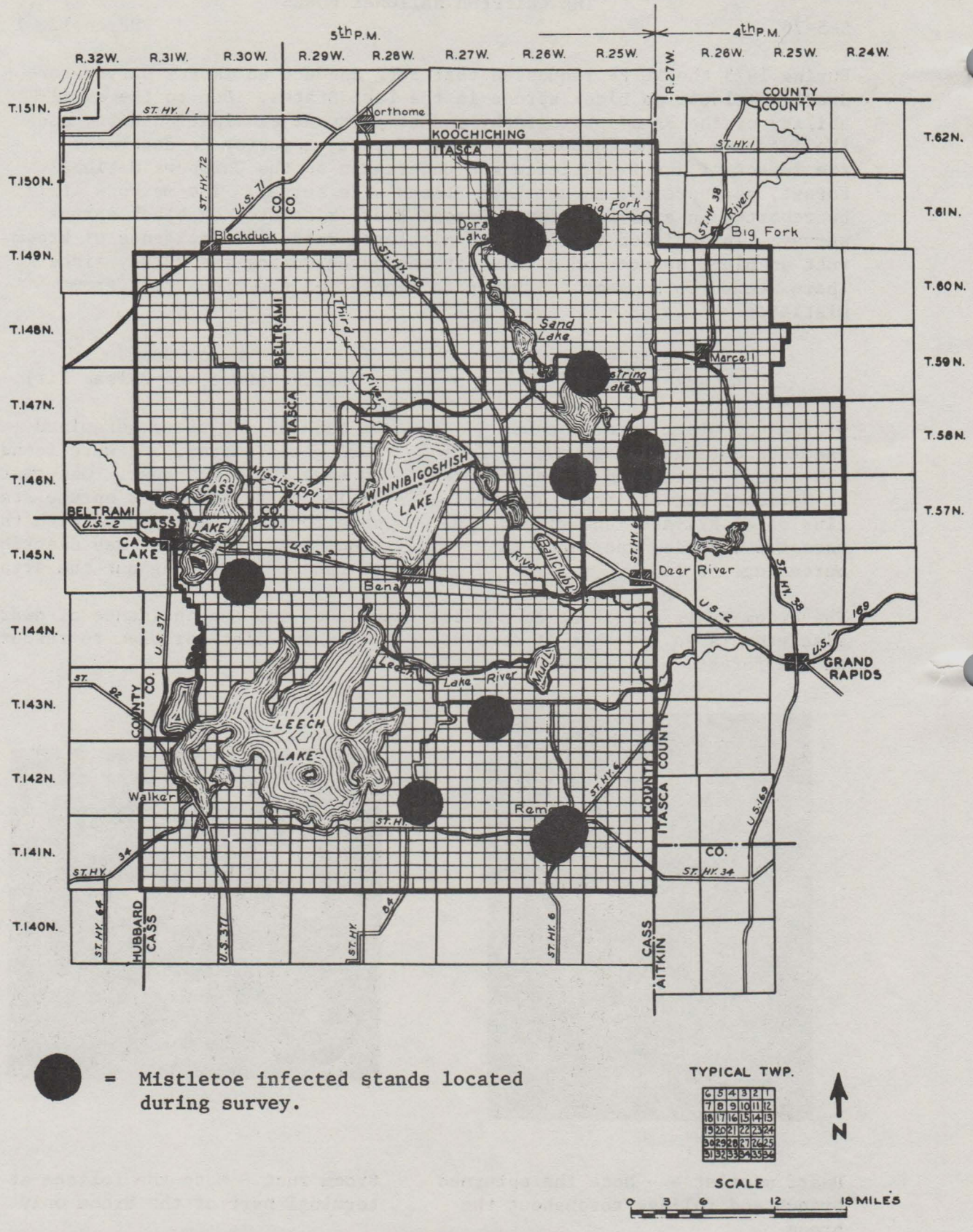

Figure 1. Known distribution of dwarf mistletoe on black spruce on the Chippewa National Forest.